

I'm writing to adamantly protest Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. Conversely, they've refused to air materials revealing abuses by the Bush administration. This shows blatant bias, partisanship, and abuse of their license to use the public airways.

I URGE THE FCC TO IMMEDIATELY INTERVENE to prevent this assault on our democracy and this abuse of the public airwaves.

Sinclair's use of the public airways compels them to serve the public interest, but their control of the airways (along with other large companies) means that profits motivate their decisions, rather than the needs of a vibrant democracy. The Sinclair plan is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, of which the FCC has been warned repeatedly by the public and by smaller broadcasters.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to consider each company's objectivity and service to the public. They show why the FCC must be much more proactive in preventing such abuses, like right now!

Thank you.